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Hijacking of Kuwaiti Airliner

An Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesman cited by IRNA condemned the shooting of the U.S. official, and Iranian President 'Ali Khamene'i dispatched a senior adviser to Mehrabad Airport to help solve the crisis, according to Tehran radio. In Kuwait, the Cabinet met in continuous session throughout 6 December and decided to send further cables to Tehran urging the Iranian authorities to take "urgent measures" to preserve the lives of the passengers, Kuwait radio reported. The Syrian Government also asked the Iranians to "double efforts" to solve the crisis, KUNA stated. The agency subsequently noted that Kuwait had received a message from President Reagan dealing with the hijacking.

Lebanon

The Israeli delegation gave no answer to Lebanon's proposals because the Lebanese must still complete their plan and provide the Israelis with more details, Jerusalem radio announced in a report on the 6 December talks at Al-Naqurah. The Israelis therefore requested clarifications on "certain points" and progress was slow, even though the talks were held in a friendly atmosphere, the radio said. The next session will be held on 10 December, Beirut radio noted.

Responding to Israel's continuing doubts over Lebanon's ability to make the necessary military arrangements to ensure an IDF withdrawal, President Amin al-Jumayyil called for unified national efforts to foil all Israeli "pretexts," Beirut radio reported, and he stressed that "certain steps" must be implemented immediately to make the government's deeds compatible with its objectives and to dispel foreign doubts about the Army. Meanwhile, the Military Council held an urgent meeting at Al-Jumayyil's request to redraft the security plan for the coast, according to Voice of Lebanon radio.

Israel

Peres in Paris — The French Government has done all it can to provide one of the greatest demonstrations of friendship for the State of Israel in its history, Prime Minister Shim'on Peres stated in remarks broadcast by Jerusalem radio after his talks with President Francois Mitterrand. The visit was a "wonderful gesture of support for Israel," he contended, and the French responded positively to all of Israel's requests. In an earlier statement over the radio, Peres noted that his talks with Mitterrand had focused on ways to resolve the Lebanese problem and resume the peace process with Jordan and Egypt. Peres gained the impression that France is ready to play a central role in helping to resolve the Lebanese issue, according to IDF radio.

In a separate development, Peres confirmed that Israel may purchase two nuclear reactors from France to meet its energy requirements but he stressed that this was not the purpose of his visit to Paris, Jerusalem radio reported. The radio subsequently disclosed that the Israeli Finance Ministry is "skeptical" about the economic viability of buying nuclear power plants.

PLO

'Arafat Meetings — The Italian prime minister and foreign minister met with PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat during their current visit to Tunisia, Rome radio reported. Earlier, 'Arafat held talks with Iraqi President Saddam Husayn before departing from Baghdad, according to INA.

'Arafat's Opponents — Ahmad al-Yamani, the PFLP's representative on the PLO Executive Committee before the 17th PNC session, asserted in remarks reported by Damascus radio that the legitimate PNC headquarters remains in Damascus, from where PLO institutions and officials will continue their activity in accordance with the resolutions and programs of the 16th PNC.

Weinberger in Saudi Arabia

U.S. Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger's talks with Defense and Aviation Minister Prince Sultan in Riyadh were part of the ongoing U.S.-Saudi consultation over military matters and technical cooperation that could increase the capabilities of the Saudi Armed Forces, SPA reported. Noting the Saudi Government's desire to strengthen its Armed Forces with "sophisticated" equipment, the Saudi ambassador to Washington said that Weinberger's visit to the Kingdom will provide a "positive service" in this regard, the agency added.

Afghanistan

The authorities have begun distributing weapons to members of self-defense groups in institutions and enterprises, Kabul radio reported.

Pakistan

Mobs of Sunni Muslims burned houses belonging to Shi'ites in Karachi, according to AFP. The renewed sectarian violence erupted when Sunnis celebrating the Prophet's birthday marched through a Shi'ite area.

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Ziray Meets Khitrov-Led Soviet Delegation
LD062059 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 6 Dec 84

[Text] Today in his office, Saleh Mohammad Ziray, member of the Politburo and secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, met the Soviet delegation, led by Leonid Ivanovich Khitrov, member of the CPSU Central Committee, member of the Supreme Soviet and head of the USSR State Committee for Supply of Production Equipment for Agriculture, who at present is paying a friendly visit to our revolutionary government.

During this visit, which took place in the presence of 'Abdol Ghaffar Lakanwal, minister of Agriculture and Land Reform, talks were held on subjects of mutual interest in a friendly and cordial atmosphere.

Mahmud Barialay Speaks at Prague Conference
LD070948 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 6 Dec 84

[Text] Mahmud Barialay, candidate member of the Politburo and secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, today delivered a speech at the round table of the consultative council of *PROBLEMS OF PEACE AND SOCIALISM* magazine, which has been convened in Prague. Mahmud Barialay, at the head of a party delegation, arrived recently in Prague, the capital of CSSR, to take part in this round table.

Weapons Distributed to Self-Defense Groups
LD061449 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto and Dari 0205 Gmt 2 Dec 84

[Excerpt] The distribution of weapons to members of self-defense groups at institutions and enterprises has begun in accordance with the joint resolution of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and of the DRA Council of Ministers.

At a meeting held yesterday in the education press building on the occasion of the distribution of weapons to members of the self-defense groups of the education press, the deputy minister of education and training spoke about the victory of the April revolution and its gains. He explained the mission of the workers for the defense of their enterprise. The weapons provided by the trade union, through the Kabul city council, were then distributed to the members of the self-defense groups.

CSSR Delegation Arrives for Cooperation Talks
LD062353 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1730 GMT 6 Dec 84

[Text] The second session of the joint commission on economic, trade [word indistinct] and technical cooperation for 1985 between the DRA and CSSR began talks this afternoon at the Ministry of Commerce. The CSSR delegation, headed by Jaros lav Jakubec, deputy minister of foreign trade, arrived this morning in Kabul. At Kabul Airport, the delegation was welcomed by the deputy minister of commerce and some members of the Afghan delegation.

Saudi Arabia Supplies Weapons to Rebels
LD061509 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto and Dari 0205 GMT 2 Dec 84

[From the "In the Mirror of the Press" program]

[Text] Under the title: The Saudi Regime Supplies Arms to the Counterrevolutionaries of Afghanistan, a page two article in *HAQIQAT-E ENQELAB-E SAWR* explains the nature of the interference by international reaction in the victorious revolution of our country. In this connection, eight documents captured from ringleaders of these bands are reproduced on this page.

In one of these documents, addressed to the criminal Siyaf, the sale of weapons is mentioned, we read:

In the name of God, the Compassionate, the Merciful,

Mujahid brother, Professor Abdol Rasoul Siyaf, chairman of Etehad-e Eslami of Afghanistan Mujahidin:

All brothers send to you greetings and praise from the heated trenches of Jihad against the occupying Soviet forces and against Babrak's soldiers; and they wish that God almighty will make you victorious in their duties on the path of (?Pakistan).

His excellency the professor,

All those items from the Saudi Arabian assistance that you sent to us I sold in the tribal regions, and here transfer the sum of 50,440 rupees, their proceeds, to you.

I ask his excellency not to let the military officer know about this subject as he instructed me not to sell the weapons without his permission.

Wishing you victories and waiting for your excellency's instructions. Be assured that each of your instructions will be implemented by me. May God give us success.

U.S. Aids Pakistan in 'Anti-Afghan War'
LD071007 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0430 GMT 7 dec 84

[Text] Kabul, December 6, BAKHTAR — A political observer of BAKHTAR writes:

Another American delegation of 16 U.S. congressmen has visited Islamabad. Senator Sam Nunn, a member of the delegation, visited a camp of Afghan counter-revolutionaries near Peshawar and assured the banidts of Washington's full support and promised them an increase in U.S. aid to their undeclared war against Democratic Afghanistan. In the western press this war is openly qualified as the biggest CIA secret operation. Alluding to certain members of the Reagan administration, *THE NEW YORK TIMES* wrote that in the current fiscal year the White House

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Iran-Iraq War

Iraqi planes attacked a "very large maritime target" near Khark Island on 10 December, scoring accurate and effective hits, Iraq announced in a military communique broadcast by Baghdad radio. Monitored Iranian media have not mentioned the attack.

Aftermath of Hijacking

A Kuwaiti plane left for Tehran on 11 December to bring back the passengers of the hijacked Kuwaiti airliner, KUNA reported. In Tehran, President 'Ali Khamene'i reaffirmed Iran's view that accusations of Iranian involvement in the hijacking are so baseless that they do not deserve a reply, according to IRNA. If it were not for the "negligence" of Kuwaiti officials, the Iranian Government could have ended the hijacking 3 days earlier, he contended. Meanwhile, the Kuwaiti amir expressed gratitude to Khamene'i for helping resolve the crisis, in a message broadcast by Tehran radio. On the other hand, before the hijacking was over, Kuwait's *AL-ANBA'* claimed that "the hands which are trying to disarm the terrorists are the hands which armed them," adding that "those who pretend to end the ordeal of the stricken plane are those who planned this evil action."

Soviet-Iranian Talks

Talks have been held between the Soviet ambassador and a Foreign Ministry official on expanding economic relations, Tehran radio noted.

Lebanon

Murphy Visit, Al-Naqurah Talks — Lebanon still maintains its view on the deployment and scope of UNIFIL and it sees no reason to extend UNIFIL's powers in the area north of the Al-Litani River, Prime Minister Rashid Karami declared in remarks broadcast by Beirut radio after talks with visiting U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy. Meanwhile, following the latest round of Israeli-Lebanese talks at Al-Naqurah, a Lebanese source cited by the radio accused the Israelis of stubbornly adhering to "impossible conditions" and of procrastinating in order to gain time and cover up a unilateral move. Clarifying Israel's position, the Israeli delegation said it has no intention of presenting an ultimatum for terminating the talks but emphasized that the negotiations should be accelerated as far as possible, according to Jerusalem radio. The delegations agreed to adjourn the talks between 20 December and 7 January, the UNIFIL spokesman disclosed in a statement reported by Beirut radio.

King Husayn in UK

At their meeting in London King Husayn and British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher discussed the Middle East problem and the king's peace formula based on UN Resolution 242, Amman radio reported.

Syria

The Soviet Union, in cooperation with Syrian experts, will begin geological and geophysical studies at appropriate sites for the construction of Syria's first nuclear power station, the electricity minister stated in remarks reported by SANA following his return from Moscow.

Algeria

After arriving in Algiers, a Soviet Military delegation led by Deputy Defense Minister Admiral Sergey Gorshkov discussed "questions of mutual interest" with Algerian political and military leaders, TASS reported.

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Karmal Message to UN on Human Rights Day
LD102307 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 10 Dec 84

["Text" of a message by Babrak Karmal, secretary general of the PDPA Central Committee and president of the DRA Revolutionary Council, on the occasion of the celebration of the 36th anniversary of the International Declaration on Human Rights]

[Text] Your Excellency, Javier Perez de Cuellar, secretary general of the United Nations, New York:

I have the pleasure to express sincere congratulations on behalf of the people, the DRA Government, and on my own behalf, on the occasion of the celebration of the 36th anniversary of the International Declaration on Human Rights.

With the ratification of the declaration, the peoples of the member-countries of the United Nations once again expressed their trust in basic human rights, in human dignity, and in equal rights for men and women. Since then, however, the imperialist and reactionary forces of the world have been pursuing a policy of systematic deviation from the aforementioned principles.

The anniversary of the declaration occurs at a time when millions of people residing on our planet are faced with the great threat of imperialist forces and the diabolical actions of their collaborators, which has severely intensified the danger of an international clash. The deprivation of the people of Palestine of their undeniable right to self-determination, independence, and national sovereignty; the massacre and crushing of the Palestinian and Lebanese peoples and other people residing in the occupied Arab lands; the intensification of suffocation and threat and the policy of terror pursued by the Zionist regime of Israel, has endangered peace and security not only in the Middle East but throughout the world.

The heroic peoples of Namibia are suffering and being tortured under the oppressive administration of the racist regime in Pretoria. The South African Government, following the policy of apartheid, which is one of the most filthy forms of racial prejudice, has deprived the true inhabitants of South Africa of their basic human rights. The deprivation of the noble peoples of El Salvador, Chile, and Guatemala of their basic human rights by the antipopular regimes and militarist dictatorships has provoked the deep concern of the peoples of the world. In addition, millions of human beings in the capitalist countries are condemned to live under racist laws and regulations, and are deprived of many of their human rights — such as the right to work and the right to live in peace and security.

One of the major aims of the UN Charter is to free future generations from the calamity of war. This noble aim is in serious jeopardy largely because of the pursuit of policies of adventurism, hegemony, aggressiveness, and irresponsibility of imperialist countries headed by U.S. imperialism. The continuation of thesearbitrary policies, in particular the intensification of the arms race, threatens the right to life, which is the most basic of human rights, as well as peace and security on our planet. The lack of equality in the economic, social, and cultural rights of societies based on hostile classes, which has caused a further widening of the gap between rich and poor, is a major obstacle in the attainment of political and civil rights by a great number of people. The unjust order in current international economic relations has created an enormous obstacle to fully implementing human rights in the developing countries.

In accordance with its progressive policy at the national, regional, and international levels, the DRA attaches great importance to the observation and realization of the values that were declared in the International Declaration on Human Rights. The DRA has signed several international conventions concerning human rights and has included their articles in its laws. By joining the treaty of prevention of the traffic of persons [as heard] and the exploitation of others for the purpose of prostitution, which is under final consideration, Afghanistan will be a signatory of most international conventions dealing with human rights.

In accordance with its principled policy, the DRA has supported, supports, and will continue to support the international struggle against imperialism, racism — including Zionism, racial prejudice and apartheid, and the struggles of the national liberation movements in Asia, Africa, and Latin America that are struggling to gain their right to self-determination.

For the first time in the history of the country, the April revolution maintained equality between all citizens of Afghanistan, between nationalities, clans, racial minorities, and women and men, and laid the foundation for a democratic and just society, which is a strong base for the realization of the values enshrined in the International Declaration on Human Rights and in other international laws.

The aggressive policy of the Reagan administration and its policy of state terrorism against our lawful government and people, its inhumane and savage intrigues, and the infiltration of murderous [word indistinct] bands from Afghanistan's neighboring countries, are a categorical violation of our compatriots' human rights, and have damaged the process of democratization and progress in the DRA. Nevertheless, we have succeeded in achieving considerable progress in observing, developing, and safeguarding human rights.

The DRA views with appreciation the indefatigable efforts of the United Nations and of Your Excellency, the goal of which is to further support and develop human rights. Your Excellency is aware that the reactionary and imperialist forces of the world have pinned their hopes on transforming some international organs, in particular those organs engaged in matters related to human rights, into a tool for promoting their unsound aims and interfering in the internal affairs of independent and progressive countries. I am completely confident that a joint effort by the United Nations, progressive forces, and progressive nations will have a fundamental role in preventing the implementation of such aims.

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Karmal Sends Message to Gandhi, Zail Singh on Bhopal
LD120550 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0420 GMT 12 Dec 84

[Text] Kabul, December 11, BAKHTAR — Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA CC and president of the Revolutionary Council of the DRA has sent a message of sympathies addressed to President Zail Singh and Premier Rajiv Gandhi of India on the tragedy which followed the leakage of poisonous gas of Union Carbide factory in Bhopal.

The message expresses the hope that the people and government of the DRA, preceding from the historical and cultural relations of long standing and the traditional brotherly friendship with the great Indian people were deeply moved by this tragic event and share the feelings of the people of India on this great disaster. [sentence as received]

Indian Leaders Acknowledge Assassination Condolences
LD120615 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0432 GMT 12 Dec 84

[Text] Kabul, December 11, BAKHTAR — A message by President Zail Singh of India addressed to Babrak Karmal, general secretary of PDPA CC and president of the Revolutionary Council of the DRA, has been received here. The message is in response to the condolence of Babrak Karmal on the death of Mrs Indira Gandhi.

The president of India in his message has expressed gratitude for the sympathy of the government, people of Afghanistan and Babrak Karmal in person on the demise of Indira Gandhi as well as for the participation of Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, member of Politburo of the PDPA CC and chairman of the Council of Ministers of the DRA along with Mahmud Barialay, alternate member of the Politburo and secretary of the PDPA CC in the funeral ceremonies of Indira Gandhi.

The message also expresses hope that the friendship and cooperation between the two countries would continue in years to come.

Another message from Premier Rajiv Gandhi addressed to Babrak Karmal has also been received here.

This message manifests the profound appreciation of the government, people and Rajiv Gandhi in person for the condolences of the government and people of Afghanistan on the assassination of Mrs. Indira Gandhi and expresses the hope for prolongation of mutual and fruitful cooperation between the two countries.

PDPA's Keshtmand Addresses Nationalities Officials
LD112237 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 11 Dec 84

[Text] Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the DRA Revolutionary Council, this afternoon at the headquarters of the Council of Ministers, met the participants of a seminar, heads of departments and personnel of the Ministry of Nationalities and Tribal Affairs.

At this meeting, Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand spoke about the duties of the personnel of the Ministry of Nationalities and Tribal Affairs in general and in particular about the organization of political and propaganda work among the nationalities and tribes, and said:

After the national and democratic April revolution and particularly after the new development stage of the April revolution, the party and the DRA Government have embodied in their action program the solution of national issues. The duties and mission of the personnel of the Ministry of Nationalities and Tribal Affairs are extremely heavy and important for the implementation of this national objective, especially under the present circumstances in our society.

Referring to the Law on Local Organs of the State Administration and Power, Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand said:

Positive and fundamental steps have been taken in this respect; this law, which demonstrates democracy as its genuine feature, will play an important role in the political life of the country's workers.

Regarding the policy of the party and government on (?respecting) the traditions and praiseworthy customs of the nationalities and tribes residing in Afghanistan, Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand said:

A realistic and careful approach has been explained in the policy of the PDPA and the DRA Government regarding the tradition and customs of the people, and the evil heritage of the past regimes in this connection which created discord among the favious tribes and nationalities has been eliminated.

A BAKHTAR correspondent reports that after Soltan 'Ali Kesh tmand's talk the following spoke: the head of the Herat Province Nationalities and Tribal Affairs Department, a Khost district official in charge of propaganda among nationalities and tribes, and the head of the Ministry of Nationalities and Tribal Affairs Publication Department. The speakers also gave assurances of further expansion of the political and popular work among the country's tribes and nationalities for the realization of the party and government objective.

Kabul: Rebels Suffer Defeats, Defections
LD092215 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 9 Dec 84

[Text] Quoting a DRA security force, a BAKHTAR correspondent reports that a number of our deceived compatriots, members of the criminal Gulbuddin band headed by Zabihullah, took advantage of the DRA Revolutionary Council Presidium's amnesty decree. Realizing the PDPA's lofty aims, they surrendered recently to the security authorities in Badghis Province's Qades district, bringing along 17 types of weapons and a rocket launcher. They promised to defend the motherland to the end, to build a new and just society, and to fight counterrevolutionaries, murderers infiltrated from abroad.

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Lebanon

The atmosphere in southern Shi'ite villages was "tense" after Israeli troops detained "scores" of people in the 13 December operation against "terrorist cells," Jerusalem radio reported. The IDF killed one "terrorist" who was "trying to escape," and a local girl was also killed by Israeli fire, the radio said, but the death of a third person was the result of a family feud and was unrelated to the IDF operation. Seven other Lebanese were wounded in the raids on five villages near Tyre. The Israelis seized large quantities of arms and ammunition and their captives include a terrorist band of six persons caught with their weapons, the radio disclosed. Two IDF soldiers were subsequently wounded in an ambush in the Tyre area, IDF radio reported.

In remarks reported by Beirut radio, Minister for Southern Affairs and Reconstruction Nabih Birri urged southerners to denounce Israel's "new crime" and to stage a general strike in protest on 15 December.

Meanwhile, after bad weather forced the postponement of the 13 December talks at Al-Naqurah, the UNIFIL spokesman announced that the next meeting will be held on 17 December, according to Beirut radio.

In West Beirut, a senior Druze officer in the Lebanese Army's 6th Brigade was assassinated by gunmen early on 14 December, the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon reported. Security sources cited by WAKH accused Israel's Mosad of staging the attack in an attempt to explode the security situation.

Israel

Relations With Egypt — Egyptian Prime Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali has told the Israeli ambassador in Cairo that Egypt is willing to discuss the Tabah issue in alternate talks at Beersheba and Ismailia, Jerusalem television announced. Noting that the Egyptians had previously demanded that the talks be held in a neutral country, the television described the change in Egypt's position as a "breakthrough." Earlier, the daily *HA'ARETZ* viewed a recent meeting between local Israeli and Egyptian police commanders at the Tabah border crossing as a "significant, positive turning point" in Israeli-Egyptian relations in Tabah, pointing out that the two sides made agreements on cooperation and the exchange of information.

North African Affairs

Tunisian-Libyan Relations — Tunisia is "not pleased" with the presence in Libya of Tunisian opposition groups receiving military training, and wishes to draw Libya's attention to this "abnormal" situation, Tunisian Foreign Minister Beji Caid Esebsi stated in a KUNA interview. He called on Libya to close the camps and expel the Tunisian groups, asserting that such a decision would "positively affect" bilateral relations.

Mauritanian Coup — Libya officially recognized the new Mauritanian regime in a cable from the Libyan foreign liaison secretary to the Mauritanian foreign minister, JANA reported. Nouakchott radio has not been heard to confirm AFP reports that former Mauritanian President Mohamed Khouna Ould Haydala has returned to Nouakchott.

Iran

The U.S. Administration has exercised "a form of press censorship" over remarks made by two U.S. passengers from the hijacked Kuwaiti airliner because their "praise" for Iran's efforts to release them "angered" the U.S. authorities, according to an IRNA dispatch from Washington cited by Tehran radio.

Gulf Affairs

Following the recent hijacking of a Kuwaiti airliner, the GCC General Secretariat has begun contacts with member countries to take "certain collective measures" to fend off the dangers threatening the security of the Gulf countries, GCC Secretary General 'Abdallah Bisharah disclosed in a television interview reported by WAKH. As for the GCC radio station which began broadcasting from Kuwait to cover the GCC summit, Bisharah indicated that it will shortly resume transmission on a permanent basis, with member states each providing 2-hours of the daily output.

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Iran-Iraq Conflict

Iraqi aircraft carried out another air strike in the Gulf on 18 December, scoring accurate and effective hits on a large maritime target south of Khark Island, an Iraqi military spokesman announced in a statement reported by INA. A similar target was also hit by the Iraqis in the same area the previous day, according to an Iraqi communique broadcast by Baghdad radio. Meanwhile, an attack on a tanker by "unknown" aircraft in the southern part of the Gulf was reported by Tehran radio, citing an AP dispatch based on local shipping sources which said there were no casualties.

Earlier, the Iraqi Defense Ministry's *AL-QADISIYAH* declared that Iraq will use new, sophisticated weapons to curb any Iranian aggression, INA disclosed.

Israel

Coalition Crisis — The Likud ministers will consult on 19 December to decide whether to leave the government because of the crisis, which the Alignment has made "no effort" to solve, Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir announced in remarks broadcast by IDF radio early on 18 December. Meanwhile, Jerusalem radio confirmed that SHAS has resigned from the government, noting that Minister Without Portfolio Yitzhaq Peretz' resignation became effective on 18 December as consultations continued among ministers. However, in remarks broadcast by the radio, Prime Minister Shim'on Peres said he does not regard Peretz' resignation as the end of the matter, adding that a solution to the conflict between SHAS and the National Religious Party over the distribution of portfolios is still possible.

Terrorist Attack — A hand grenade was thrown at a bus in Tel Aviv, injuring three people, Jerusalem radio reported on 17 December.

Trial of Hijackers

The hijackers of the Kuwaiti airliner will be put on trial by the Iranian authorities and will not be extradited to any other country, the Tehran public prosecutor announced at a press conference reported by IRNA.

USSR Delegation in Kuwait

Chairman of the Soviet of Nationalities of the USSR Supreme Soviet Avgust Voss arrived in Kuwait to consolidate bilateral parliamentary relations and hold talks on peace, the arms race, and Middle East issues, according to his remarks cited by KUNA.

OPEC

Before leaving for the OPEC ministerial conference in Geneva, Iranian Oil minister Mohammad Gharazi declared that Iran has adhered strictly to its OPEC obligations, but it will not make sacrifices that would allow "Western conspirators" to undermine that organization, Tehran radio reported. The market has been weakened because some members have increased their production, Gharazi alleged. An Iranian Oil Ministry statement cited by IRNA added that Iran considers the present OPEC production ceiling to be too high. In Iraq, Oil Minister Qasim Ahmad Taqi, in a statement before his departure for Geneva cited by INA, also noted that the oil market has not stabilized because certain countries have not abided by their production quotas or have directly or indirectly reduced their prices.

North Africa

Libyan Contacts — On a stopover in Kuwait on his way to the ICO ministerial conference in Sanaa, Foreign Liaison Secretary 'Abd al-Salam al-Turayki asserted to reporters that the reasons for the Muslim boycott of Egypt still remain and he recalled that at the Fes summit Libya strongly opposed readmitting Egypt to the ICO, KUNA reported. Another official, Staff Major 'Abd al-Salam Jallud, discussed bilateral relations and Mediterranean affairs with Italian Prime Minister Bettino Craxi during a private visit to Rome, Rome radio revealed.

Honecker in Algeria — President Chadli Bendjedid and Chairman of the GDR Council of State Erich Honecker held political talks at the beginning of Honecker's 3-day visit, Algiers radio reported.

Refugees, Clashes in Sudan — The People's Assembly speaker stated that there are now 1.1 million Ethiopian refugees in eastern Sudan, SUNA reported. As for clashes in the south, seven crew members have been killed and six are missing after attacks on steamers, the agency disclosed. Recent reports by the clandestine radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army have claimed successes in attacks on river boats and government troops in the south.

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Authorities Deny Air Raids into Pakistan

LD171723 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 17 Dec 84

[Text] The charge d'affaires of the Pakistani Embassy in Kabul was summond to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs at 1330 this afternoon. The following points were mentioned to him by the head of the first Political Directorate of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs:

Following their previous accusations, the Pakistani authorities have again alleged that two Afghan aircraft intruded 15 km into that country's air space on 11 December and bombed and fired rockets on Paywar Kotal, near Para Chinar.

The DRA authorities regard this recent allegation of the Pakistani authorities as untrue. Strongly rejecting them, they add that the Pakistani military authorities, while expanding and intensifying armed aggression and provocations, have intensified their fabrications, accusations, and hostile propaganda against the DRA. The responsibility for this, which can result only in the creation of tension and danger in the region, rests totally with the Pakistani authorities.

FRG TV Interviews Karmal on Soviet Occupation

DW171429 Cologne Westdeutscher Rundfunk Television Network in German 2000 GMT 16 Dec 84

[Excerpt] [Interview with President Babrak Karmal by correspondent Mostafa Danesh in Kabul; date not given; in Dari with superimposed German translation; from the "Auslandsstudio" program — recorded]

[Karmal] The legal Government of Afghanistan, recognized by all countries, invited the limited number of Soviet troops. Also, the inviation is in keeping with the treaty concluded in 1978 between the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan [DRA] and the Soviet Union. It is also in harmony with the UN Charter. The limited number of Soviet troops were invited to protect Afghanistan's independence and freedom because Afghanistan's independence, freedom, sovereignty, and territorial integrity were being seriously jeopardized by the aggressive threat from the region's reactionary circles and from imperialism, above all U.S. imperialism and Chinese hegemonists.

As soon as the armed intrusions and aggression by foreign countries are eliminated and there are guarantees that something of this sort will not recur, the limited contingent from the Soviet Union will, of course, return to its peaceful homeland. In addition, this is an internal affair involving Afghanistan and the Soviet Union.

[Danesh] Mr President, according to Western estimates, millions of Afghans disapprove of Afghanistan's policy and its close ties with the Soviet Union.

[Karmal] Millions of Afghans, that is nonsense. The April Revolution which took place with the will of the Afghan people and under the leadership of our party, the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan [PDPA], is fully supported by the vast majority of our people. Naturally, in any social and political revolution, there will always be a small minority that opposes the revolution. Our revolution is a national and democratic revolution; it is directed against feudalism and imperialism.

Quite naturally, the revolution has harmed the material interests of the monarchist circles, the rich upper class, corrupt bureaucrats, and especially the feudal lords and other reactionary forces. For this reason, some of these people fled into the country's interior and some to foreign countries.

[Danesh] On the other hand, as the head of this country's government, are you not afraid that the presence of Soviet troops in your country keeps the resistance of many Afghans against the Soviets and your government alive?

[Karmal] The DRA Government, the PDPA, and, of course, myself personally, are patriots of our people. We never lose sight of our people's national interest. As a sincere patriot, I tell you that the word fear has no meaning for us. We valiantly say that as progressive patriots of the new and revolutionary Afghanistan, we are proud of the sincere friendship between Afghanistan and the Soviet Union. This is the guaranteed basis for the consolidation of independence and freedom of our country.

Barialay Returns to Kabul After Visit to CSSR

LD142317 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 13 Dec 84

[Text] Muhmud Barialay, candidate member of the Politburo and secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, who sometime ago went to Prague, the capital of the CSSR, to participate in the round table discussion of the *PEACE AND SOCIALISM* magazine, returned to Kabul today.

Nurzay Returns From USSR Cooperatives Congress

LD180027 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 17 Dec 84

[Text] 'Abdol Qayum Nurzay, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the Central Council of the DRA Union of Agricultural Cooperatives, returned home today after participating in the 11th Congress of the USSR Central Union of Consumer Cooperatives.

Bareq Shafi'i, member of the PDPA Central Committee and first deputy chairman of the National Fatherland Front Central Council, and a number of agricultural cooperative officials welcomed him at Kabul Airport.

1,000 Rebels Surrender in Parvan Province

LD171815 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 17 Dec 84

[Text] According to a BAKHTAR correspondent, 1,000 people of our deceived compatriots who belonged to the Jami'at-e Eslami and Hezb-e Eslami bands, together with their ringleaders (Meharboddin), (Zalmay), (Faruq), and (Mahbobollah) of the

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Israel

Coalition Crisis — Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir has given Prime Minister Shim'on Peres another 2 days to resolve the coalition crisis, Jerusalem radio reported following a meeting between the two men on the evening of 18 December. The Likud ministers will meet on 20 December to decide whether to resign from the government, the radio added. In a related development, the secretary general of the National Religious Party (NRP) stated that the NRP is willing to renew the dialogue with SHAS in order to resolve the crisis, the radio noted. Prime Minister Peres told Jerusalem television that he favors SHAS' return to the government, adding that he is seeking a way to retain both SHAS and the NRP within the coalition, which should be as broad as possible.

Tel Aviv Explosion — Baghdad Voice of PLO radio announced that a group of PLO "revolutionaries" was responsible for the 17 December hand grenade attack which injured three people in Tel Aviv, claiming that the target was a "Zionist military vehicle." However, responsibility for the attack was also claimed by the PFLP and Fatah dissidents in Damascus, according to Radio Monte Carlo.

Lebanon

Security — Artillery exchanges continued near Beirut, causing further casualties in Christian areas, according to the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon. A spokesman for the Phalangist Lebanese Forces warned the Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) against establishing artillery emplacements in West Beirut, Voice of Lebanon radio reported. PSP sources cited by the clandestine Voice of the Mountain radio accused the Lebanese Army of shelling Druze residential areas in the Mountain, but announced the PSP's readiness to implement the coastal road security plan at any time to be determined by the Military Council.

As for the south, the IDF arrested 21 people suspected of "terrorist" activity in another sweep of villages near the coastal road, Jerusalem radio noted.

Diplomacy, Comment — Talks in Damascus between U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy and Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' focused on the UN role in the process of the Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon, Damascus television reported. Jerusalem radio viewed Murphy's visit to Damascus as a mission for the salvation of the Al-Naqurah talks, which are unlikely to continue after Christmas barring a "miracle." Meanwhile, in a recent *HA'ARETZ* interview, Prime Minister Peres stressed that if the Al-Naqurah talks fail, Israel should unilaterally withdraw to the international border 6-9 months after making the decision, adding that he favors a full withdrawal with its attendant risks because "I do not like half measures."

Iran-Iraq Conflict

Iraq may have used its new Mirage F1 EQ5 aircraft to attack the Greek-owned ship *Aegis Cosmic* on 17 December because the raid would have been at the limit of the range of Iraq's Super Etendards, according to Gulf shipping sources cited by the *GULF DAILY NEWS*. The paper's sources discounted the ship's captain's theory that a submarine was responsible for the attack. As for Iraq's announcement of a successful air strike on a vessel south of Khark Island on 18 December, the sources said this has not been independently confirmed and no SOS messages have been received.

ICO Ministerial Conference

The 1000-GMT opening of the ICO ministerial conference in Sanaa was postponed, KUNA disclosed, citing sources who "indicated" that in a preliminary meeting there were heated arguments between the Syrian and Egyptian delegations over restoration of Egypt's ICO seat. The ICO countries were urged to expel Egypt from the conference in a statement issued by Iran's Majlis, Tehran radio reported. Although the time when the conference eventually opened was not specified, Sanaa radio carried an opening speech by YAR President Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih appealing for Arab unity.

Sudan

The authorities released former Ummah Party leader Sadiq al-Mahdi and a number of his supporters, according to SUNA.

Western Sahara

Polisario forces killed 19 Moroccan soldiers in operations from 13 to 15 December, according to an SDAR communique cited by Algiers radio.

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Najibollah Addresses Kabul NFF Leaders

LD161846 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 16 Dec 84

[Text] Najibollah, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and the head of the state information service, this afternoon met with the heads and deputy heads of the provincial, city, and district councils of Kabul of the National Fatherland Front [NFF] who had taken part in the 5th NFF Central Council plenum.

At the beginning, Najibollah expressed pleasure in meeting the elders, intellectuals, and ulema of the country who have come together in the NFF as representatives of the people in the country's provinces, cities, districts, and sub-districts.

Speaking with them, Najibollah described the hostile and anti-human actions of the imperialist circles headed by U.S. imperialism against our revolutionary country. He said: Imperialism, which has with the victory of the SOWR Revolution lost interest in revolutionary Afghanistan, is trying by all means to embark on aggressive, interfering, and savage actions against our popular revolution and create obstacles in the way of our revolution by terror, murder, and plunder through its agents.

However, they are unaware of the fact that our courageous people have chosen their way, which is the way of prosperity and progress of independent and free Afghanistan.

Najibollah added: We are sailing in the same boat, that is the boat of defending those men who have always suffered poverty and persecution and with this boat we want to sail toward the shores of their rescue and build a society where the blistered hands of the worker and a peasant with hungry stomach do not exist and an orphan does not live in streets and despair and every one enjoys all benefits of life in equality.

Speaking on the role of jergas in Afghanistan and the policy of the party and government concerning the tribes and clans, Najibollah added: One of our laudible traditions in the history of the country is tribal jergas through which our forefathers engaged in solving social problems.

You ought to, through such jergas in the Central Council of the NFF, improve and evolve these jergas which have democratic characters and create the organs of the people for the good and humane aims of the party and state and preserve traditional links with the tribes, and in this way foil the plans of the enemies among the tribes.

A BIA correspondent reports that at the end of Najibollah's talk, Sayed Mozafar Shah, head of the NFF city council of Herat Province; Mohammad Jan Sher, head of the provincial NFF council of the Konar Province; and Mohammad Miran Ghaibmal, head of the NFF council of the Mohamand Dara District, on behalf of the others, spoke and once again promised that they will not spare any effort and self sacrifice towards realizing the lofty aims of their revolutionary party and government for the prosperity and well-being of Afghanistan and will put into action the resolutions of the 5th NFF Central Council plenum.

Takhar Governor Recounts Security Operations

LD152354 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1235 GMT 15 Dec 84

[Excerpts] The PDPA regards as its immediate duty to secure the broad and active participation of the toilers and all progressive and democratic forces in the national, democratic, and anti-feudal transformations in the task of defending the homeland and the April Revolution. On the basis of this principle, the reporter of Radio Afghanistan has carried out a special interview with the esteemed governor of Takhar Province, [Abdol Majid Sekandari].

[Begin recording] [Unidentified reporter] How do you assess the security situation in the region and relations of the local organs with villages and hamlets?

[Sekandari] The security situation is good in our province and it is getting better. As you can see yourself, at present the government's revolutionary sovereignty is in force in our city, and there is no worry about the daily life of the inhabitants of the city and districts beyond the Kowkcheh, such as (Khaja Ghar), Rostaq, Chah Ab, Yangi Qal'eh, and (Derqat) District. There is no worry in the sense that counterrevolutionaries' plunder and looting do not exist at present time as far as we know.

Regarding the restoration of security, it should be mentioned that the joint headquarters of our province have attained relatively good victories in 1363 [beginning 21 March 1984]. For example, during the first two quarters of the current year, we have liberated more than 21 villages from the domination of the counter-revolutionaries in accordance with the plan. At present all socio-economic activities are underway in these villages. For example, in the capital of Taloqan, Baghak was freed this year from the domination of the counterrevolutionaries with the cooperation of the inhabitants. Now there is a school, primary party organizations, and primary social organizations, and the land reform program is underway. Prior to the formation of security posts in this region, there was no life; however, after a short period, more than 100 families returned to their homes. The people voluntarily joined the ranks of our security forces. This shows that the people are really interested in the restoration of security. Villages in other districts were also liberated in the same way.

It should be mentioned that the liberation of most of the villages was a result of the cooperation of the inhabitants and by peaceful and understanding means. Of course, sometimes we have launched military operations. During the operations we have always tried to use propaganda in the region; even during the operations our mobile propaganda groups begin to have talks with the inhabitants. After the withdrawal of the forces from the region, the security of the region is maintained by the creation of revolution defense groups or self-defense groups in the region.

[Reporter] Well, esteemed Engineer Abdol Majid Sekandari, you have been appointed chairman of the headquarters in Takhar Province. Could you please give some information to the esteemed listeners of Radio Afghanistan about the operations launched in Takhar Province and about your successes?

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Leaders Address NFF Plenum Participants

Keshtmand Speaks

LD201901 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari
1600 GMT 18 Dec 84

[Text] Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the DRA Council of Ministers met this afternoon with the participants of the fifth plenum of the National Fatherland Front [NFF] Central Council at the Council of Ministers headquarters. Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand said: The NFF, as the country's most massive and popular socio-political organization comprising all social organizations, individuals, and personalities, is the rallying point of the country's patriotic forces and a means to interest people in the affairs of state and society.

Expressing pleasure at the NFF's successes in organizational and political work which has been reflected in the fifth plenum of its Central Council, Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand said he hoped that the NFF would bring together various strata of people in carrying out the progressive socio-economic changes being formulated by the party and revolutionary state. He also hoped that they would cooperate with the party and state organs in normalizing situations in the localities and maintaining nationwide peace.

Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand said: Among the fundamental tasks carried out by the NFF are mass political work in the localities to explain the policy of the party and revolutionary state; publicizing the gains of the revolution and their defense; intensifying the struggle against the counterrevolution; consolidating revolutionary sovereignty and relations among the nationalities, tribes and clans of our beloved country; strengthening the spirit of defense among the people; organizing social personalities, ulema and religious leaders; cooperating in the areas of social services, education, culture, and literacy; participating in land and water reform; participating in the implementation of the law of local organs of the state power and administration; executing serious work with the tribes and clans in the country's border regions; conducting propaganda on behalf of the traditional friendship between the people of Afghanistan and the great and peaceloving people of the Soviet Union; exposing the slanderous imperialist and reactionary propaganda; aiding the creation of the tribal assemblies of the people and the revoluion defense groups; helping the families of martyrs; recruiting people for collective work; helping train national cadres; and rendering daily fruitful cooperation to the local party and state organs.

Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand expressed the hope — as stated by Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and president of the DRA Revolutionary Council, during his assessment of the work of the NFF at a Politburo meeting — that the NFF, which is heir to the liberating and anti-colonial struggles of the people of Afghanistan, should become the fundamental bulwark of the people and the state power in the country.

A BIA correspondent reports that at the beginning of the meeting Bareq Shafi'i, first secretary of the NFF Central Council, highlighted the major points of the NFF's work during the period between the fourth and fifth plenums of the NFF Central council, and said: During this time some 808 councils from the provincial to the localities levels have been added to the NFF. Presently, a total of 1,804 councils comprising 76,000 members exist throughout the country.

The BIA correspondent adds that at the end of Keshtmand's statement, Qari Sirat, deputy chief of the Kabul NFF City Council; Sayd Rahman, head of the NFF Council of Khowst District; and Haji Zarin, head of the Golran District, Herat Province NFF Council, spoke on behalf of the other participants of the NFF Central Council's fifth plenum. While expressing their gratification at meeting Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, they promised to make every effort to extend the work of the Front, form new councils, and achieve the tasks entrusted to them.

Karmal Addresses Plenum

LD210128 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari
1600 GMT 20 Dec 84

[Excerpts] Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and president of the DRA Revolutionary Council, today at 1100 met with participants of the fifth plenum of the National Fatherland Front Central Council, at Revolutionary Council headquarters. He gave necessary instruction in a free, sincere, and friendly atmosphere to improve the work of the NFF and its further evolution.

At the beginning of this friendly meeting Saleh Mohammad Ziray, Politburo and Secretariat member of the PDPA Central Committee and chairman of the NFF Central Council, briefly spoke about the results of the fifth plenum of the NFF Central Council. On behalf of the plenum's participants, he gave assurances to Babrak Karmal that they were resolutely prepared to implement the resolutions of the 14th plenum of the PDPA Central Committee and of the fifth plenum of the NFF Central Council.

Amid the enthusiasm and applause of the audience Babrak Karmal spoke in detail about the formidable role of the NFF in organizing and uniting the masses, working classes, and various nationalities residing in our united homeland, and said:

The issue of a front is not hollow propaganda. The Front is the product of the formidable pains of the people and countries of the world. Defense of the lofty aspirations of the revolution and its gains is feasible, above all through the organization and unity of all the country's workers in the resolute and relentless fortress of struggle against the undeclared war of international imperialism and its international aggressive allies, in collaboration with the Chinese hegemonists, reactionary military circles of Pakistan and Iran, and Arab and regional reaction.

Babrak Karmal spoke in detail about the role and most immediate duty of the NFF for the restoration of peace and security in the country, successful implementation of the democratic land and water reforms, complete eradication of illiteracy in the country, and raising the workers' standard of living. He said:

The NFF, which arose from our working people, must always be among the people and with the people. It should perceive their

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Iraq-Iran Conflict

Iraqi military reinforcements have been deployed in the central battle sector over the past few days in anticipation of a new Iranian offensive, Radio Monte Carlo reported. Iraq's 4th Army Corps is now fully prepared to destroy any Iranian aggression, and is monitoring the Iranian forces' battle preparations, its commander declared in a statement carried in the 27 December Defense Ministry newspaper and cited by INA.

Iran

In an anonymous telephone call to AFP's Tehran bureau, a man claimed responsibility on behalf of the opposition People's Mujahedeen for the 26 December Tehran car bomb explosion in which "four" people were killed, AFP reported. However, this claim was denied by a Paris spokesman for the group, who hinted that the bomb might have been planted by the Iranian Government to tarnish the opposition's image, according to the agency.

Lebanon

Security Developments — President Amin al-Jumayyil left for Damascus to discuss Lebanese political and security developments with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad, the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon reported. Earlier, on 26 December, seven new conditions stipulated by the PSP prevented the Cabinet meeting from ratifying the security plan for the coastal and Al-Kharrub areas, so the Cabinet authorized the Military Council to deal with obstacles to the plan, Voice of Lebanon radio disclosed. However, according to a subsequent report by the clandestine Voice of the Mountain radio, an "official" PSP source denied reports about new PSP conditions for the coast road security plan. The source asserted that PSP leader Walid Junblatt gave "unequivocal" instructions to facilitate the plan's implementation, and said that the Phalangists and the government were trying to avoid the agreement even though the Military Council confirmed it at a 23 December meeting.

IDF Withdrawal — The Israeli prime minister has moved toward the defense minister's position in order to persuade the Likud leaders to agree to a phased IDF withdrawal, with the first stage set at the Al-Litani River, the second at the line between the international border and the Al-Litani, and the third at the international border, Jerusalem television revealed.

Fighting — For the third time in 10 days shells hit the Al-Awwali area near Israeli positions, the Voice of Lebanon radio reported, noting that firing at the coastal road and al-Kharrub villages was continuing.

Israel

Delegations from Israel, Egypt, and the United States will meet in Beersheba in 2 weeks to discuss MFO deployment in Tabah, Jerusalem radio reported.

In a separate development, IDF radio predicted that Israel will agree "in principle" to the U.S. request to set up a VOA relay station in Israel, adding that "in all probability" Israel will suggest establishing a committee to study a location for it, postponing the project for an "unlimited period" because the country's leaders fear the effect of such a move on the USSR's attitude toward Soviet Jews.

Afghanistan

Anticipating rebel attacks in connection with the fifth anniversary of Soviet intervention, Soviet and DRA forces have increased security measures in Kabul, AFP reported, citing a Western diplomatic source. Last week rebel ambushes closed the highway between Kabul and the Soviet border for 4 days, according to the same source.

Pakistan

A government spokesman affirmed that elections will be held before 23 March 1985 as stated by President Ziaul Haq in August 1983, according to Karachi radio. Haq will announce whether the elections will be held on a party or nonparty basis, the spokesman added. Meanwhile, police released three opposition leaders who were placed under house arrest to prevent them from attending an antigovernment rally on 25 December, Delhi radio's English service revealed.

Maghreb

An official SDAR statement announced that 100 Moroccan soldiers were killed in a Polisario attack in the Mahbes area on 24 December and 37 others died in attacks on positions along the defensive wall from 14 to 24 December, Algiers radio reported.

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Dost Speaks at Ministry's Anniversary Celebration

LD261956 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 26 Dec 84

[Text] The personnel and staff of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs held a glorious session today in the Ministry's Institute of Diplomacy to mark the 20th anniversary of the founding of the PDPA.

Shah Mohammad Dost, member of the PDPA and the DRA minister of foreign affairs, in his opening speech spoke about the main outline of DRA foreign policy. He pointed out that, after the victory of the April revolution, under the direction of the PDPA, the foreign policy of the country has been relieved of its dependency on reaction and imperialism; for the first time, Afghanistan has been able to follow a principled and independent foreign policy.

Shah Mohammad Dost added: The Ministry of Foreign Affairs, on the basis of the PDPA's action program and on the basis of the DRA's basic principles, is trying very hard to put into action the scientific foreign policy of the party and the DRA Government in the field of international relations, based on the principles of the defense of peace, international solidarity with all peace-loving and progressive forces — in particular the socialist countries, led by the Soviet Union — peaceful coexistence, and active and positive nonalignment.

Shah Mohammad Dost added: Since the April revolution, the DRA's international relations have been developing increasingly, and the prestige and credit of the country in the international arena has been raised higher than before.

The deputy ministers and a number of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs staff then spoke about various aspects of foreign policy and preventing psychological warfare by imperialism, headed by the U.S. imperialism, against the DRA.

Transportation Minister Opens New Enterprise

LD261909 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 26 Dec 84

[Excerpt] The Kamaz-3 transportation enterprise was officially opened today and began operation on the occasion of 20th anniversary of the founding of the PDPA. The ceremony, which was held in the courtyard of this enterprise, was attended by Brigadier General Mohammad Rafi, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, some employees of the Ministry of Transportation, workers of the Ministry of Public Works and of the Kamaz-3 enterprise.

Sher Jan Mazduryar, minister of transportation, spoke first about the subject and said: Together with enterprises No 1 and 2, which are operating in Kabul, this transportation enterprise has at its disposal 300 Kamaz trucks and other equipment [word indistinct] and was built by an Afghan construction enterprise on 25 hectares of land. This enterprise, which is built of concrete and has a drainage system, cost 450,000,000 afghanis from the development budget of the government. It was built with the assistance of Soviet experts.

The operation of this enterprise is a major step in developing government transport and in providing more facilities for the transportation of goods in our country.

IRNA: Opposition Attacks USSR-DRA Forces

LD220034 Tehran IRNA in English 1639 GMT 21 Dec 84

[Text] Mashhad, Khorassan Pr., Dec. 21, IRNA — The Afghan Muslim revolutionaries killed 504 Soviet and Afghan troops in a series of attacks upon eight joint bases of Soviet and Afghan forces in the Balkh province during the past two weeks.

They also captured 17 others and demolished 33 tanks and personnel carriers as well as 15 trucks and one munitions cache. A helicopter was also downed during these operations.

During the operations which were carried out in a region near the joint Soviet-Afghan borders, the Muslim revolutionaries seized 35 Kalashnikov machine guns, 2 anti-aircraft guns and four crates of ammunition.

The Muslim mujahidin sustained the martyrdom of eight combatants during these operations.

Execution of 8 Students in Kabul Noted

LD220040 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 21 Dec 84

[Text] Eight Muslim Afghan students have been executed in Kabul. After the Muslim Afghan revolutionaries stepped up their activities, the regime ruling Afghanistan executed eight Muslim Afghan students who had been arrested for cooperating with Muslim revolutionaries, who enjoy the support of that country's Muslim people. This was done to create fear and prevent the Muslim people from helping the revolutionaries.

According to a report by the Central News Unit, today's Pakistani publications printed this item. They added that 22 others, who were arrested for the same reason and who are in jail in Kabul, are awaiting the verdict of the court of the regime ruling Afghanistan.

Rebels Repel Soviet, DRA Troops' Offensive

LD261306 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 26 Dec 84

[Text] Extensive acts of aggression by the Soviet forces and the Afghan Government troops against the positions of Muslim revolutionaries in Paktia and Konarha provinces were successfully repelled. According to reports, while repelling this invasion, the Muslim Afghan revolutionaries killed or wounded several occupying troops and members of Karmal's army. They also captured several troops.

The invasion was staged with the participation of thousands of joint Soviet and Afghan Government troops with artillery and rocket-launcher support.

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